

## **PREFACE**

The Illinois Department of Transportation has prepared this manual in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). It provides for the collection and management of all information needed to satisfy the requirements of the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) as outlined in the Federal Highway Administration's Recording and Coding Guide for the Structure Inventory and Appraisal of the Nation's Bridges, December 1995. As a word of caution to holders of the FHWA guide: the format, scheme and coding directions differ considerably from this manual. The FHWA guide should be used only as a reference. The Illinois Structure Information and Procedures manual (a.k.a. SIP or ISIS manual) should be used exclusively for entering and interpreting codes to represent Illinois' structure data. For reports generated to meet FHWA requirements (such as the federal Structure Inventory and Appraisal (SI&A) sheet), interpretation should be made from codes in the FHWA guide.

The ISIS manual has been developed through a cooperative effort within the Department between the Division of Highways and the Office of Planning and Programming. IDOT and its Divisions and Offices are committed to maintaining the structure information system at a high level. This commitment is not only to satisfy NBIS requirements, but also to provide an excellent working tool in managing the bridges and other structures as they relate to the overall transportation system in Illinois. In the interest of the traveling public's safety and convenience, this commitment remains a high priority for the Department.

**\*\* Note:** The FHWA Guide can be found at the following Internet website:  
[Http://wwwcf.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge](http://wwwcf.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge) under the "Bridge Program" topic.